



OUTREACH NOTICE

NORTHERN REGION

State & Private Forestry

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

"Caring for the Land and Serving People"



GS-0434-9/11/12 Plant Pathologist

The **USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, Forest Health Protection (FHP)** is conducting outreach for a full-time permanent Plant Pathologist in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity. This position is located in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID. To express interest in this position, please complete the Outreach form and return it to Gina Davis at gina.davis@usda.gov by the close of business on **April 29th, 2022**. For more information contact Gina Davis at (208) 714-1173 or gina.davis@usda.gov.

PLEASE NOTE: The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the advertisement (e.g., target grade and service-wide, region-wide, government-wide). Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make this determination. The grade levels identified in this outreach may not be those that are eventually advertised.

The Position

The Coeur d'Alene FHP field office provides services to all Federal and Tribal lands in the Northern Region. This position serves as an entomologist, providing technical assistance and support to land managers on the identification, roles and management of forest insects. The position is part of the Regional State & Private Forestry staff directly supervised by the FHP Coeur d'Alene office Group Leader. The incumbent works closely with entomologists, plant pathologists, silviculturists, and other resource specialists. This position requires extensive overnight travel and work in field locations. The position is permanent full-time.

Major Duties for Target GS-12 Level:

- Coordinates and implements all aspects of a complex major forest pathogen detection, evaluation, prevention, and control program for such diseases as dwarf mistletoe, root disease, and white pine blister rust.
- Exercises scientific judgment to conceive and conduct special evaluations, often collaborating with research, to gain additional specific knowledge concerning disease biology, ecological relationships, parasitic effects, survey methodology, or new control techniques. Implements technology transfer plans in order to make information available to specialists and resource managers.
- Prepares plans designed to meet technical objectives and collects field data. Processes and analyzes data, consults with other professionals, evaluates the results, and makes recommendations. Prepares technical reports and manuscripts.
- Provides site-specific, technical assistance concerning forest diseases to land managers, and documents this assistance in written guidelines which are incorporated into various resource project plans. Develops these management guidelines by identifying significant pathogens, determining the present amount of damage caused by the organisms, and exercising judgment in evaluating the actual or

potential seriousness of the infestation. Where reduction of pathogen effects is desirable, develops current, effective, environmentally safe, and economically sound disease management alternatives which are consistent with specific land management objectives.

- Organizes, plans, and conducts forest pathology related training programs, presentations, or seminars, for various Federal, State, and private individuals, which are tailored to the specific needs and objectives of the requesting unit and involve summarization and presentation of complex, scientific forest pathology subject matter, or new forest disease research developments in a concise, understandable manner.

Specialized Experience

Candidate must meet OPM Qualification Standard educational requirements (listed below) and have one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the next lower grade level to be eligible for Temporary Promotion to a GS-0434 09 or 11 or 12 position.

Basic Qualification Requirements

Degree: plant pathology; or a related scientific discipline that included at least 20 semester hours in basic botany or plant science, and 10 semester hours in plant pathology.

[OPM Qualification Standards](#)

Physical Requirements

The work varies from office work usually at a computer to field work requiring strenuous physical exertion for extended periods including walking on uneven, steep terrain in all seasons.

How to Respond

If you are interested in this position **please fill out the response form** included in this outreach and email gina.davis@usda.gov no later than close of business **April 29th, 2022**.

This position will be hired through [USAJOBS - The Federal Government's official employment site](#). Applicants who respond to this outreach will be notified when the position is advertised. The vacancy may not be advertised for several months.

Location:

The position is located at the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Community Information:

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, a full-service community of over 51,000 people. Over 161,000 people live in Kootenai County. Located on the northern shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, the city is 100 miles south of the Canadian border, 33 miles east of Spokane, Washington, and an hour's drive from the Montana state line. There are four



distinct seasons, with summer average highs and lows of 82 degrees and 51 degrees; and average winter temperatures from 38 degrees and 26 degrees, with consistent amounts of snowfall.

Higher education opportunities are available. North Idaho College (NIC) is located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and 30 miles to the west of Coeur d'Alene, in Spokane, Washington, several colleges provide higher education opportunities. Moscow, Idaho is 80 miles south of Coeur d'Alene, and is the home of the University of Idaho. Washington State University is

located just eight miles west of Moscow in Pullman, Washington, and Gonzaga University is located 33 miles away in Spokane. NIC, U of I, and other universities offer adult education classes in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls.

Health care services include a full service hospital, physicians, dentist, chiropractors, optometrists, physical therapist, and mental health services at the Kootenai Medical Center. There is both an active professional and volunteer EMT program within the Coeur d'Alene communities. There are nursing homes and retirement centers within the community.

This area is often called "lake country" and Lake Coeur d'Alene is a center for recreation, as are the readily available National Forest lands. Recreational opportunities are numerous, including summer activities of camping, hiking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, motorcycle riding, golfing, boating and water skiing, and fishing. During the winter months, hunting, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling are popular. There are four winter ski resorts within easy drive of Coeur d'Alene, Mt. Spokane, Schweitzer, Silver Mountain, and Lookout Pass. The area contains several hundred miles of fishable streams and numerous lakes.

If you would like additional information about the city of Coeur d'Alene, you can contact the [Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce](#) at (208) 664-3194. Extensive additional information on the North Idaho area can be found on the internet at the [Guide to North Idaho](#).

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

Revised 6/8/2005

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

NORTHERN REGION

OUTREACH NOTICE

POSITION TITLE: Plant Pathologist

UNIT: Forest Health Protection, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Reply by April 29th, 2022

NAME:	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
STREET ADDRESS:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:	
TELEPHONE:	

Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes No

If you are a Federal Employee, please fill in below:

Agency:	<input type="checkbox"/> USFS	<input type="checkbox"/> BLM	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Type of Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/> Term	<input type="checkbox"/> VRA	<input type="checkbox"/> PWD	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Current FS Region:						
Forest:						
District:						
Current Series:						
Current Grade:						
Current Position Title:						

If you are not currently a permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

<p>Person with Disabilities (A non-competitive hiring authority for hiring persons with physical or mental disabilities certified by the Veterans Administration or a State Rehabilitation Agency as eligible. Initial appointment is into an excepted-service term or temporary position. Upon successful completion of a 2 year trainee period, non-competitive conversion to a career or career-conditional permanent appointment is possible. (Schedule A Authority)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Veterans Recruitment Act (A non-competitive authority for hiring disabled veterans, veterans who served in a declared war, or in a campaign for which a campaign badge has been authorized, or awarded a Armed Forces Service Medal, and separated from active duty in the past 3 yrs. Initial appointment (up to the GS-11 level) is to a VRA excepted-service appointment with the possibility of non-competitive conversion to a career permanent position after a 2 year period.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Disabled Veterans W/30% Compensable Disability (A non-competitive authority for hiring (1) disabled veterans who were retired from active military service with a 30% or more disability rating or (2) disabled veterans rated by the Veterans Affairs as having a compensable service-connected disability of 30% or more. Initial appointments are time-limited, lasting more than 60 days (there is no grade restriction). However, the appointee can be non-competitively converted to permanent status at any time during the time-limited appointment.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 (Allows eligible veterans to apply for merit promotion vacancies otherwise not open to external candidates without career status. Veterans are not accorded preference as a factor; if selected the VEOA eligible is placed in a career or career-conditional appointment.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Former Peace Corps Volunteer (A non-competitive authority for hiring former Peace Corp volunteers who have satisfactorily completed 3 years of continuous service into career or career-conditional permanent positions. Former volunteers are eligible up to 3 years after their separation from the Peace Corp.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Pathways Recent Graduate Program (A competitive authority for hiring recent graduates from qualifying educational institutions. To be eligible, applicants must apply within two years of degree or certificate completion (except for veterans precluded from doing so due to their military service obligation, who have up to six years after degree completion to apply).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Other (Identify)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provide a brief summary (1-3 sentences) of your overall qualifications for this position:

Provide a brief summary (1-3 sentences) of your qualifications related specifically to identification and management of forest insects.

Return your completed Outreach Notice form via email to Gina Davis

Email: gina.davis@usda.gov

Subject: Plant Pathologist Outreach Response

Respondents to this outreach will be informed by email when the vacancy is announced on [Link to USAJobs website](#).